JONATHAN HICKMAN
RICK MAGYAR

MARVEL NOW!

STEVE EPTING
FRANK D'ARMATA

JOIN THE REVOLUTION

004

©2013 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved.

WWW.MARVEL.COM

PREVIOUSLY IN NEW AVENGERS

BLACK SWAN. I'M TOLD YOU JUMPED HERE FROM ANOTHER WORLD... THAT YOU HAD SOME KIND OF DEVICE, AND THEN YOU DESTROYED THE PLANET THAT YOU CAME FROM.

IT BREAKS *HOPE*--IT CRUSHES WHAT MAKES US DECENT AND STEALS WHAT LITTLE HONOR REMAINS.

I PITY THE THINGS YOU CLING TO--THINKING THIS PROBLEM IS ONE THAT CANNOT BE SOLVED.

I PITY *YOU*. THINKING YOU HAVE SOME SAY IN HOW ALL THIS ENDS.

"WE WILL TRY EVERY GOOD AND RIGHTEOUS SOLUTION WE CAN."

"AND IF THOSE DON'T WORK?"

"THEN WE WILL HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO DESTROY A WORLD."

YOU'RE GOING TO BUILD A MACHINE OR SOME KIND OF WEAPON WITHOUT THINKING IF YOU SHOULD--JUST BECAUSE YOU MIGHT NEED IT. THEN SLOWLY, OVER TIME, YOU'LL CONVINCE YOURSELVES.

I WON'T ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN.

DAMMIT, CAP. WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE THIS WAY?

DO IT, STEPHEN.

I'M SORRY, CAPTAIN...WE HAVE NO CHOICE.

YOU WERE NEVER HERE.

YOU WILL REMEMBER NONE OF THIS.

THE ILLUMINATI

BLACK BOLT
Celestial Messiah

NAMOR
Imperius Rex

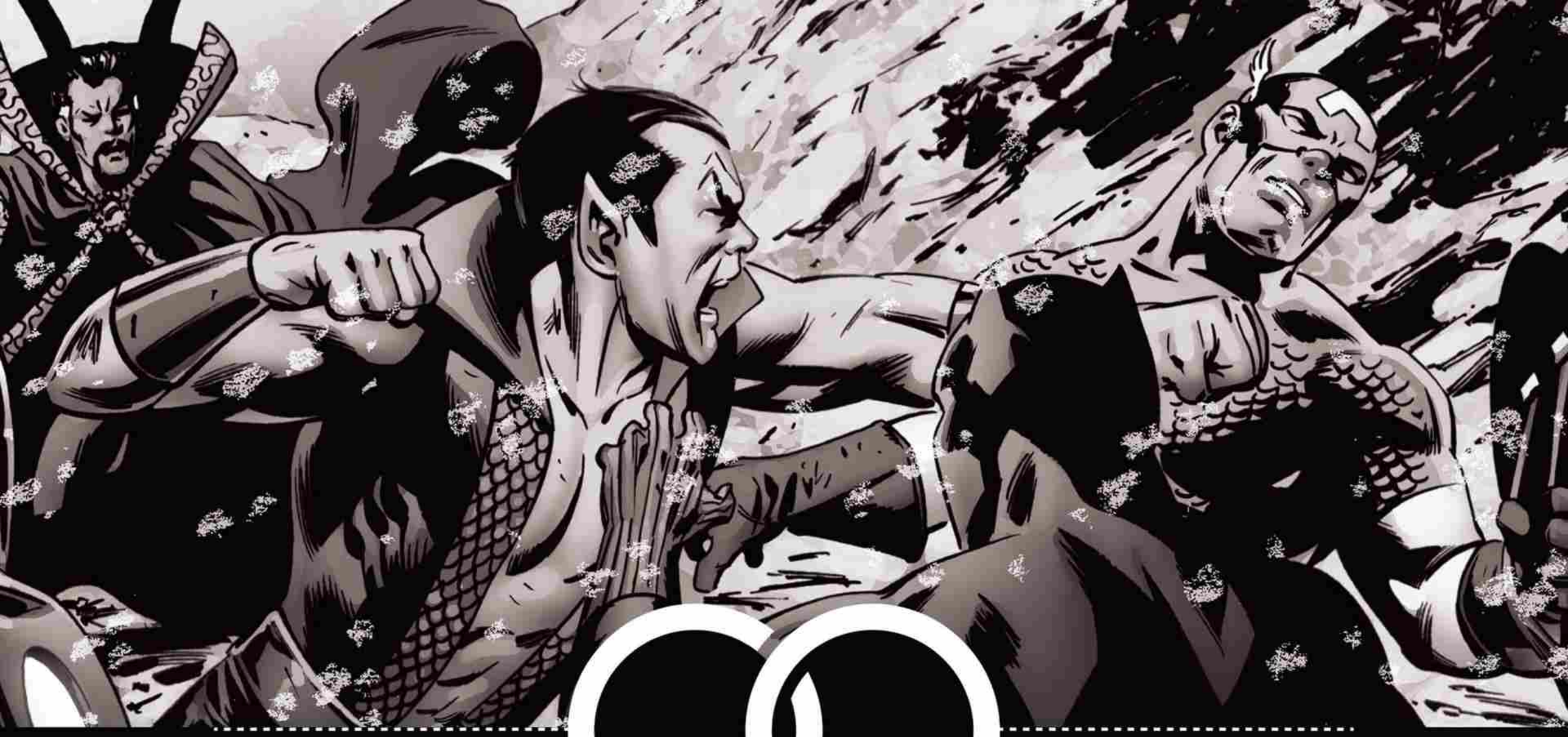
REED RICHARDS
Universal Builder

IRON MAN
Master of Machines

BEAST
Mutant Genius

DOCTOR STRANGE
Sorcerer Supreme

BLACK PANTHER
King of the Dead



"WORLD EATER"

WRITER: JONATHAN HICKMAN

PENCILER: STEVE EPTING

INKER: RICK MAGYAR

COLOR ARTIST: FRANK D'ARMATA

LETTERER: VC's JOE CARAMAGNA

COVER ART: JOCK

VARIANT COVER: STEPHANE ROUX

ASSISTANT EDITOR: JAKE THOMAS

EDITORS: TOM BREVOORT with LAUREN SANKOVITCH

EDITOR IN CHIEF: AXEL ALONSO

CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER: JOE QUESADA

PUBLISHER: DAN BUCKLEY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: ALAN FINE

© 2013 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

NECROPOLIS.

SO THIS IS WHAT SHE USED?

YES. IT ACTIVATES AN INJECTION SEQUENCE.

FOR A BOMB?

NOT JUST A BOMB. THE FIRST THING REED AND I DID WAS REVERSE-ENGINEER THE TRIGGER.

IT'S NOW RATHER APPARENT THE BLACK SWAN USED AN ANTIPROTON SLING TO DESTROY THE EARTH SHE JUMPED FROM.

WELL, YOU GOTTA ADMIT, THERE'S A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DARK POETRY TO USING AN ANTIMATTER BOMB TO KILL A WORLD.

IS YOUR VERSION DONE?

NOT YET. WE NEED ANOTHER DAY OR SO TO FINISH UP THIS DESIGN.

AND, WELL, PROBABLY ANOTHER DAY BEYOND THAT TO RUN SIMULATIONS.

I'M KIND OF SURPRISED IT TOOK THE TWO OF YOU THIS LONG...

WERE THERE SETBACKS?

DISAGREEMENTS. PANTHER?

THE FIRST MODEL HAD... DESIGN FLAWS.

SOME OF US PREFER A SCALPEL TO A SWORD.

AND SOME OF US HAVEN'T SPENT ENOUGH TIME WITH SWORDS.

ALL RIGHT, FORGET IT... HERE.

PUT THESE ON.

THESE LOOK LIKE SHI'AR OMNICASTERS. MILITARY GRADE, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN.

WHAT IS THIS, TONY?

AND WHY DO YOU KEEP LOOKING AT YOUR WATCH?

AVOIDING PRYING EYES MEANS YOU HAVE A VERY SMALL WINDOW IN WHICH TO BOUNCE A SIGNAL TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SUN.

WINDOW'S OPEN, GENTLEMEN.

LET'S TAKE A LITTLE WALK...

...I WANT TO SHOW YOU MY SOLUTION TO OUR LITTLE PROBLEM.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

YOU'RE BUILDING A DYSON SPHERE.

WELL...I LIKE ***STARK SPHERE,*** BUT APPARENTLY THE COMPANY IS ALREADY USING THAT FOR SOMETHING ELSE. I'VE GOT TO GET BETTER MARKETING PEOPLE.

WHEN THE FIRST PHASE IS COMPLETE THIS WILL ENABLE US TO START CAPTURING, AND CONTROLLING, THE POWER OF OUR LOCAL SUN.

YOU'RE GOING TO ***WEAPONIZE*** A STAR?

I FIGURE IF OUR SITUATION IS FORCING ME TO GET BACK INTO THE ARMS BUSINESS...

...WHY NOT GET EXOTIC?

I'VE GOT SOME OF THE BEST SHI'AR CONTRACTORS PRECIOUS METALS CAN BUY.

AND I'M HOPING TO BE OPERATIONAL WITHIN A MONTH.

VERY IMPRESSIVE, ANTHONY.

IMPRESSIVE ENOUGH. WE ONLY NEED THE SPHERE TO BE AROUND TWO PERCENT COMPLETE AND THEN...

WELL, WE'LL GET TO THAT WHEN WE GET TO IT. THE ONLY THING LEFT IS TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO CALL IT.

SOL'S HAMMER.

WHAT?

"IT'S CALLED SOL'S HAMMER."

THE SANCTUM SANCTORUM OF DOCTOR STRANGE.

I'VE PREPARED TEA, DOCTOR.

THANK YOU, WONG.

THE TABLE IS FINE.

IT'S VERY HOT, SO YOU--

AAIIEEE!

WHAT DARK CLOUD DEMANDS THIS EVIL?

DOCTOR, NO SPELL IN THE BLU'DAKORR HAS EVER NOT CAUSED THE DEATH OF THE CASTER. TO TOUCH IT STAINS THE SOUL.

LEGEND SAYS, IT REQUIRES THE SPIRITS OF FORTY FALLEN MEN.

YES, WONG... FORTY OF THE FALLEN...

BUT ALSO ONE OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

OH, THAT WE COULD FIND SUCH A MAN.

I DO NOT FEAR THE COST, MY FRIEND.

FEAR THAT I HAVE REASON TO OPEN IT.

FEAR WHAT FUELS MY URGENCY...

DOCTOR!

YOUR HAND!

AND FEAR MOST OF ALL...

TIME SLIPPING AWAY.

I HAVE TAKEN SOME ACTIONS TO ENABLE MORE...FLEXIBILITY IN THE MANAGING OF MY ESTATE, WONG.

YOU'LL FIND THE PAPERWORK IS ON MY DESK IN THE DOWNSTAIRS STUDY.

I LEAVE ALL THAT I POSSESS IN YOUR CARE.

YOU UNNERVE ME, STEPHEN.

MY FRIEND, FROM THIS POINT FORWARD TREAT EACH MOMENT OF EACH DAY AS IF IT WERE YOUR LAST.

AS IT VERY WELL MAY BE.

AM I GOING TO SEE YOU AGAIN?

I CARRY THE BLOOD BIBLE, WONG...

IT WOULD SEEM UNLIKELY.

ELLIS ISLAND.
NEW YORK.

OKAY, SURE...

GIVE US YOUR TIRED, YOUR POOR, YOUR DYING, BROKEN WORLDS.

I DON'T KNOW WHY I WAS THINKING THESE THINGS WOULD BE CONFINED TO REMOTE LOCATIONS...

YES, WORD WOULD CERTAINLY SPREAD. IT WOULD BE A CONCERN...

IF OUR SITUATION DIDN'T MAKE THAT ALL IRRELEVANT.

MY GOD... YOU FOOLS HAVE *NOTHING*, DO YOU?

T'CHALLA AND I HAVE A WAY TO CHANNEL AN ULTIMATE NULLIFIER THROUGH A VIBRANIUM BARREL...

INSTANTLY VAPORIZING THE INCURSION SITE OF THAT WORLD ALONG WITH THE SURROUNDING ONE HUNDRED SQUARE MILES.

THERE'S SOME EVIDENCE THIS WILL INTERRUPT THE EVENT, BUT IT WILL ALSO...KILL THE USER. STILL, IT MIGHT BE WORTH IT AT TRIPLE THE COST.

BECAUSE REGARDING ALL THE OTHER OPTIONS WE CAME UP WITH...

WE SIMPLY RAN OUT OF TIME.

AND I FELT SO DAMN CLEVER EARLIER TODAY.

ACTUALLY...I HAVE AN IDEA WE SHOULD CONSIDER.

THAT EARTH, AND THAT UNIVERSE, SHOULD HAVE ITS OWN SET OF INFINITY GEMS.

MAYBE WE USE THEM AND TRY TO BUY OURSELVES A WHILE LONGER.

YOU'RE ASSUMING THEY CAN BE FOUND IN TIME, AND THAT THEY CAN EVEN BE ACQUIRED.

TO SAY NOTHING OF THE GEMS ONLY WORKING IN THEIR NATIVE UNIVERSE. THEREFORE, THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE USED FROM THAT SIDE.

MEANING SOMEONE WOULD HAVE TO STAY THERE.

THEN, IN THAT CASE, WE SHOULD TRY IT...

FOR IF WE FAIL, I HAVE SOMETHING PREPARED THAT REQUIRES ME BEING ON THE OTHER EARTH TO INVOKE--SOMETHING WORSE, WITH ROUGHLY THE SAME COST...

WHICH IS?

UNSPEAKABLE. AND IT WILL REMAIN SO.

THEN NO MATTER WHAT...

ONE OF US ISN'T COMING BACK.

HA! HA! HA!

LET HOPE DIE, YOU FOOLS...

IT'S TIME TO EMBRACE OBLIVION.

WE ARE ALREADY DEAD.

OH MY...

MANY WORLDS.

ALL OF THEM CANNOT BE OURS.

ADMIT IT, HENRY...

THE IDEA EXCITES YOU A LITTLE, DOESN'T IT?

WE HAVE JUST OVER SIX HOURS. CALL IT FOUR, IF WE'RE GOING TO LEAVE TIME FOR STEPHEN TO DO WHATEVER HE PLANS.

IN TRANSIT, REED AND I PUT SOME THOUGHT INTO WHERE WE START.

SNAP!

GOOD. BECAUSE FRANKLY, I DON'T HAVE A--

BLACK BOLT, WHAT IS...

OH!

SURE... WHY NOT?

I'LL HAVE TO GET A CLOSER LOOK...

BUT IT APPEARS HE'S ASSEMBLED A CONVERSION MACHINE TO ACCELERATE THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WORLD.

IF IT'S ANYTHING LIKE THE ONES I'VE SEEN GALACTUS BUILD IN THE PAST, IT WILL REACH CRITICAL MASS WITHIN MINUTES OF BEING ACTIVATED.

WE'LL HAVE TO GO NOW IF WE HAVE ANY HOPES OF...

...STOPPING...

OH.

WE CAN'T JUST LET THESE PEOPLE...

WE HAVE *TO TRY.*

OF COURSE WE DO.

HOW COULD WE NOT?

EASILY.

AND BE ALL THE BETTER FOR IT.

AFTER ALL, AN INCURSION'S NO PLACE FOR CONSCIENCE...

OR SO I'VE HEARD.

BESIDES...

YOU'RE TOO LATE.

"GALAKTUS HUNGERS."

WAIT. HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT AN INCURSION IS?

HOW DID YOU KNOW TO BE HERE...

OR EVEN HOW TO FIND IT?

THE UNIVERSE IS VAST, HUMAN...

AND I AM TERRAX, THE TRULY ENLIGHTENED.

THERE HAVE BEEN WHISPERS, UNCOVERED SECRETS, AND RUMORS SPREAD BY REFUGEES.

I KNOW MANY, MANY THINGS...

AND CLEARLY, YOU DO NOT.

RRUMBLE

YOU SHOULD RUN NOW.

SOMETHING GLORIOUS IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN.

NO IT ISN'T. NOT YET.

HOW MUCH TIME DO WE HAVE, HENRY?

FIVE HOURS.

02:05:14

YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO STOP US, I SUPPOSE?

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL, DO YOU?

YOU'RE JUST MEN.

I CAN TELL THAT YOU RECOGNIZE ME. CLEARLY, YOU KNOW MY MASTER.

BUT BEYOND THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO...I HAVE NO IDEA WHO YOU PEOPLE ARE.

GALAKTUS IS A UNIVERSAL CONSTANT.

HE MUST BE THERE AT THE END OF EACH UNIVERSE. BUT BECAUSE OF THIS WORLD, THE UNIVERSES ARE DYING TOO SOON.

SO WE WILL UNMOOR OUR UNIVERSE BY KILLING THIS WORLD.

JUST AS IN YOUR UNIVERSE, THE SAME WILL HAPPEN TO YOUR EARTH.

AND THERE IS MORE THAN JUST MY MASTER TO ACCOUNT FOR.

SO PLEASE, GO HOME.

ACCEPT THE GREATER GOOD--ACCEPT YOUR GOOD FORTUNE--AND LET THIS EARTH DIE.

"OR WE COULD PLAY WARRIORS WHILE A WORLD CRUMBLES AROUND US...

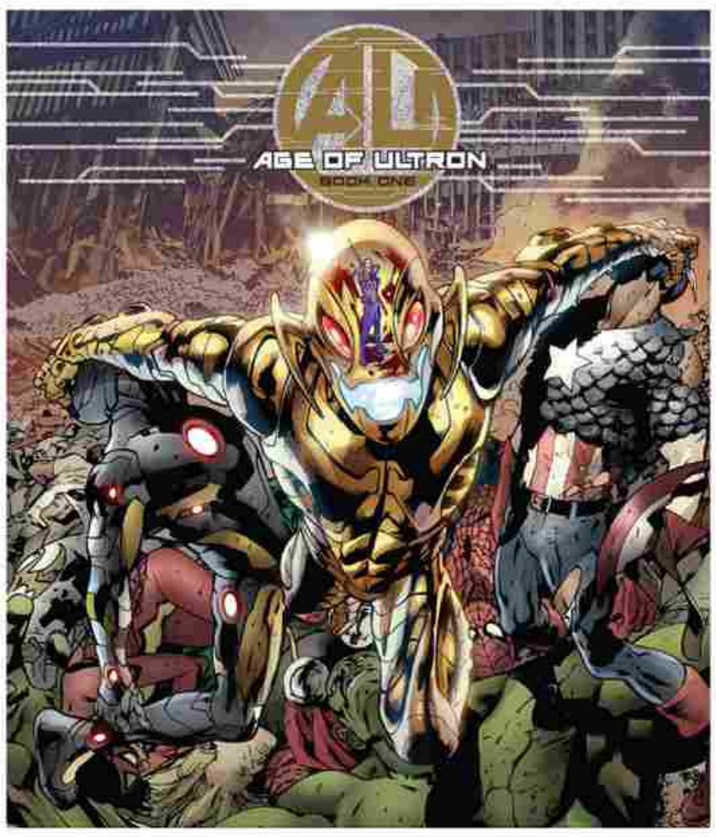
"PRETENDING LIKE THIS IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DEFEAT WITH YOUR FISTS."

WELL? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE-STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

It's been a long time in coming—since last year's Free Comic Book Day at least! But at last, it's time to prepare for the **AGE OF ULTRON**—a monster storyline from the mind of Brian Michael Bendis and the drawing boards of Bryan Hitch, Brandon Peterson and Carlos Pacheco! The unstoppable A.I. known as Ultron strikes—and before the Marvel Universe knows what's happening, it's all over! And that's just where the story begins! For maximum excitement, AGE OF ULTRON will be coming at you multiple times each month (the first three amazing issues all shipping in March!) along with dedicated tie-in issues of your favorite titles!



This is the first month in forever that doesn't have a new Avengers-affiliated Marvel Now! title launching! So we figured this would be a good time to catch our breath, go to the mail bag, and get a sense of what you guys have thought about our dramatic creative relaunches:

I really did enjoy UNCANNY AVENGERS #1. John Cassaday's art alone is worth the price of admission.

–Chris Lopez

I just read UNCANNY AVENGERS #1 and I found it fascinating. There are so many great ideas exploited by Remender.

–Arcadio Bolaños

I loved AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #9 and am so looking forward to see what Kelly & Stefano have in store for us. The snappy dialogue and perfect characterization was a welcome breath of fresh air.

–Rachael Sherwood

UNCANNY AVENGERS #1 was AMAZING! SPECTACULAR! UNCANNILY AWESOME! I really cannot wait to see where the series goes and what arcs you guys have in store for us in the future.

–Isaac Orr-Green

LOVE the direction you are taking this book!!!! I wasn't a huge fan of Rogue but she is coming off as a very powerful character, and less whiny.

–Joseph D. Urbick

It has been a long time since I have sent an email into Marvel after reading a comic book but after reading AVENGERS #1 I had to write to say job well done!

–Scott Zachry

While I was a little sad to see J. Hickman leave FANTASTIC FOUR and FF, I´m glad he´s now writing AVENGERS. It´s just what the title needed!

–Iñigo Pm

I just finished AVENGERS #1, and as a 57 year old long time comic book reader, I have to say I was extremely disappointed. While I understand that it's simply the first issue, it seemed unstructured, "overwritten" and confusing with no clear cut point of view.

–Mike Vadis

I just wanted to drop you a line and let you know that I really enjoyed issue #9 of the AVENGERS ASSEMBLE series. It was difficult for me to stifle my heinous giggling at the hijinks of Stark and Thor vs. Spider-Woman and Hulk, and I actually had someone come over to me and ask what I was enjoying so much!

–Nikki N.

I was pleasantly surprised. The art by Jerome Opena has come a long way since UNCANNY X-FORCE #1. Hyperion, Smasher, a new Captain Universe? Pretty cool new members, too!

–Andrew J. Shaw

Just wanted to comment on how great this first AVENGERS issue is. The villains are intriguing and compelling right from the get-go. I love that the writing is drawing from classic religious references like Ex Nihilo. It makes the story and dialogue feel rich and interesting.

–Jenny Tarof

I'm absolutely loving the new era - love Jonathan Hickman's writing, love Jerome Opena's artwork - and I understand that the whole point of this story-arc is for the new Avengers team to save the butts of the old Avengers team. So you de-power Iron Man's armor, and you mind-control the Hulk, fine, fine - but in issue #2, you have Thor hanging helpless wrapped in…vines. Vines, people! Try remembering: he's not 'normal guy plus enchanted hammer' - he's 'Hulk-strong guy plus enchanted hammer.' Yeesh.

–Steve Donoghue

I am glad to see the Black Panther back on the scene and making big moves. He is my favorite character. He's also a great choice to lead the New Avengers.

–Vincent

Wow! This is one of the most beautiful books that I've seen in a long time. It's edgy and simply put, utterly brilliant.

–Brian Chamberlin

I was on the fence about AVENGERS… until I saw Cannonball and Sunspot recruited! Cannonball has been my absolute favorite character for years and Sunspot is next in line. Please let them represent the X by kicking major butt as Avengers!

–Isaac Woodby

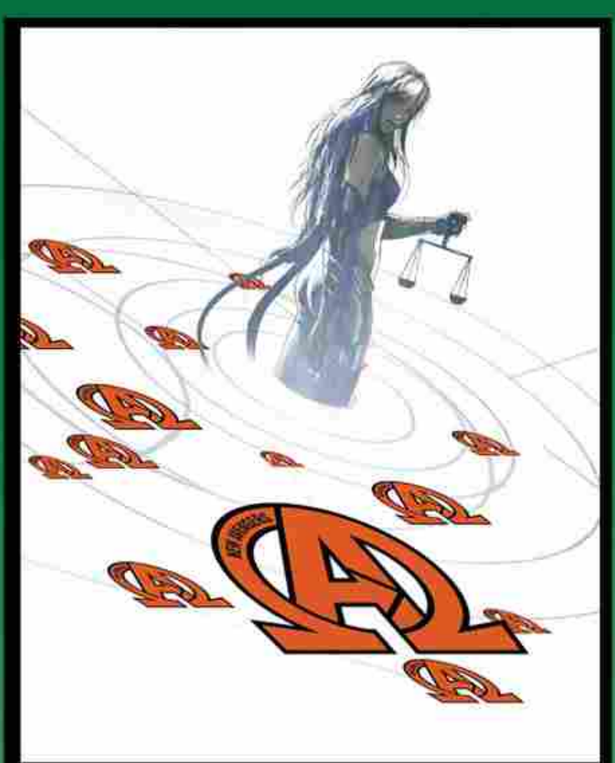
I have loved comics since I was a kid (I'm 31 now). I started collecting them again with the introduction of Marvel Now! I have yet to be disappointed. I just finished reading UNCANNY AVENGERS #3 and all I can say is Wow! That was one heck of a fun roller coaster ride. I loved seeing the Red Skull lose his hand and then Thor bowing down and pledging allegiance at the end. I can't wait to see what you guys do with the apocalypse storyline that is still to come.

–Norman Shane Noah

Well, you've done it. You have officially won me over…big time! I just finished UNCANNY AVENGERS #3 and I had to pick my jaw up off of the floor. Not only that, but for the first time in a long time, I can truly say that I have no idea what is going to happen next.

–Steven Taylor

NEXT ISSUE:



WORLDS IN THE BALANCE!

AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE:

AVENGERS #7
THE LAST WHITE EVENT!

AVENGERS #8
WHO IS THE NEW STAR BRAND?

AVENGERS ARENA #6
ANOTHER SHOCKING DEATH ENDS THE FIRST STORY ARC!

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #13
THE BLACK WIDOW STANDS IN JUDGMENT FOR THE SINS OF HER PAST!

DARK AVENGERS #188
AT WAR WITH IRON MAN!

NEW AVENGERS #4
WORLD EATER! AND THAT CAN ONLY MEAN…GALACTUS!

SECRET AVENGERS #2
NICK FURY AND TASKMASTER MUST ESCAPE FROM BAGALIA, THE RED LIGHT NATION!

UNCANNY AVENGERS #6
THOR VS APOCALYPSE AT THE DAWN OF TIME!

YOUNG AVENGERS #3
WHO'S WORSE THAN LOKI? HIS FATHER…

A + X #6
CAPTAIN MARVEL AND WOLVERINE! PLUS, IRON MAN AND BEAST!

ALSO ON SALE!

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #12

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE! E-MAIL US AT: **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM.** PLEASE MARK ALL E-MAILS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**

E
E
M
R
I
Zone